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# First Annual John O. Waller Lectureship on the Arts

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## Gymnics perform for half-time show

The Andrews University Gymnics hit the court at The Palace in Detroit for a pre-season Detroit Pistons vs. Atlanta Hawks game half-time show on Oct. 23, 2008. The Gymnics—28 college students and one high school student—had seven minutes to set up their tumbling mats and perform a routine complete with tumbling, pyramids and basket tosses. The team received an invitation to perform again for the Pistons vs. Houston Rockets game on Sunday, Jan. 25.

Lorren Hickman, a sophomore, says, “Many people just think about gymnastics and that’s only a small percentage of what happens. We do a lot of witnessing through our attitudes and actions. We are a team united in Christ.”

The Gymnics are known for their fantastic performances on the gymnastics mat and for their anti-drug assemblies and religious programming.

Keri Suarez, media relations specialist,  
Office of Integrated Marketing &  
Communication

## Teacher prep program “exemplary”

The Michigan State Board of Education has declared the Andrews University Teacher Preparation Program an “exemplary” organization. The program received a perfect score of 70 out of 70 based on an examination



Clock-wise from top left: Brianna Richards, Candice Peralta, Kelli Streelman, Rommel Jarrette and Lorren Hickman are performing three-highs.

given by the Michigan Department of Education. The Andrews University Teacher Preparation Program was the only institution out of 32 to receive a perfect score, and it was the highest score in the state for the 2006–2007 academic year. Andrews’ program took top honors ahead of other higher-profile institutions, including the University of Michigan and Michigan State University. Those institutions scored 68 and 66, respectively.

“This is such a positive thing for teacher preparation,” says Jim Jeffery, dean of the School of Education. “I hope this news can really translate into students exploring education as a career.”

“Our high pass rate is recognition of how well they are prepared by each of the departments on campus,” says Lee Davidson, Department of Teaching, Learning & Curriculum chair. “We pray, by God’s grace, we can maintain high standards and prepare teachers

who will go out and help change the world for the better.”

Ashleigh Jardine, student news writer, Office  
of Integrated Marketing & Communication

## First annual John O. Waller Lectureship on the Arts

Remembering an Andrews University scholar by reflecting on the arts was the goal of an evening in late October as nearly 100 people met in the Seminary Chapel at the Andrews University Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary for the first annual John O. Waller Lectureship on the Arts. Waller chaired the Department of English from 1963 to 1979.

Before a mixed assembly of students, faculty and friends, Douglas Jones, Department of English chair, expressed excitement that a commemorative lectureship for Waller was finally established and noted it had been a departmental goal for several years. Waller’s widow, Elaine, worked with Andrews University to help endow the John O. Waller Lectureship on the Arts. Delmer Davis, professor emeritus of English, embraced the event stating, “A lectureship on the arts in his honor is a worthy and fitting tribute.”

The guest speaker, former Andrews University teacher William S. Peterson, professor emeritus of English at the University of Maryland, was Waller’s student at Walla Walla College (now Walla Walla University) and a long-time friend. His lecture was entitled, “William Morris’ Pocket Cathedral: The Kelmscott Press *Chaucer*.” The presentation was an exploration of the publication process and artistic expression of *Chaucer*, an 1896 product of Morris’ Kelmscott Press, a work hailed as a masterpiece of book production and the zenith of private press publishing.

Andre Weston, student news writer, Office of  
Integrated Marketing & Communication